

**Safety Committee
May 12, 2008
5:00 PM**

Minutes

Call to Order: Present for roll call was Dr. Bender, Mrs. Mershon (Chair) and Mrs. Turner. Also in attendance were Mayor Ebert, Sgt. Kern and Mr. Peoples.

Approval of Minutes

Dr. Bender moved to approve of the minutes of the April 14th, 2008 meeting. Mrs. Turner seconded the motion.

VOTES	AYES	Dr. Bender, Ms. Mershon, Ms. Turner
	NAYS	
		Motion carried.

Pended Items: None at this time

New Items for Discussion:

08-06 Intersection of Washington Street and Waterloo Street – Traffic during construction.

Mr. Peoples reminded that this was a result of a resident complaint. The situation is being monitored. It is a sporadic issue. Mr. Farst has looked at the issue. In order for a traffic control device to be put up, a study would have to be completed at a cost of approximately \$500. Mr. Peoples stated that with the time it would take to complete the study, then the time for training drivers to stop at the new 3-way stop, the impact it would make on Waterloo Street and then the time it would take to re-train drivers not to stop once it was removed... the project would be completed before that time period.

Columbus Street was supposed to be open to vehicle traffic on June 1st, however, with the recent rains, that date will be pushed back. Still, the project is well ahead of schedule.

Mrs. Mershon asked what about putting the light at Washington / Columbus on red flash. Mr. Peoples said he would have to look into it.

Mayor Ebert asked if we could re-program the light. Mr. Peoples stated that the Village of Canal Winchester is responsible for it. However, we do not have the programming capabilities, so it would have to be hired out.

Dr. Bender asked about the water line to the Methodist Church. Mr. Peoples stated that they repaired it and replaced a portion of their pipe that was galvanized.

Mrs. Mershon asked if the house on Columbus with the back off of it was a result of the Columbus Street project. Mr. Peoples answered that it was not. The owner dug out for footers for new a garage and the old house's sandstone foundations (with no footers) gave way.

08-07 Concept Plan Westchester Park

Mr. Peoples stated that this idea was brought to Service Committee last year. As a part of a rezoning in 2004, there was an agreement that the Village would own the property, the homeowners would maintain the property and the Golf Course would have the final say about what goes on over there. The Village of Canal Winchester has since taken over the maintenance of the property and came up with the idea of a park over there.

Mr. Peoples showed a drawing depicting the proposed family park. The park would keep the existing open space and would finish the walking trail. The path would have fitness stations along it. The parking lot would be expanded. Three shelter houses would be constructed and a swing set/playground area would be added. One of the provisions of the zoning is that any improvements would have to be approved by the homeowners association and Eastside properties.

We expected to have \$200,000 in the budget, but that total is down to \$125,000. That would be enough to start the project and use a Phase in approach. The first phase would have to entail a buffer between the golf course and the park itself. The playground could be modular, so that it could be expanded in the coming years.

The proposed date would be late summer 2008.

Mrs. Mershon asked if it would be dog-friendly and suggested that the dog waste bags stations be put along the walking path as well.

Dr. Bender likes the concept and asked about the port-a-john. Is there the ability to have a regular restroom facility?

Mr. Peoples stated that the utilities are available, however the maintenance and upkeep is very expensive and causes problems. A service would be hired to come in weekly to clean and sanitize the port-a-john.

Mrs. Turner expressed concern over the cleaning up after dogs if the park is dog friendly. Mrs. Mershon stated that providing the dog bags will help with that.

Sgt. Kern asked if there would be a sign for no golf carts on the path. Mr. Peoples said that yes, golf carts would be prohibited.

Mr. Peoples will take this concept drawing to Eastside properties and the homeowners association for their comments. Any further questions or comments from Council should be directed to Mr. Peoples.

Dr. Bender requested again that ODOT be asked about putting sidewalks in along Gender Road where it crosses 33. He is worried now that there is no bussing for high school students, more kids will be walking across that bridge and it isn't safe.

Mr. Strayer stated that ODOT will not put sidewalks across there, because they deem it an unsafe place to walk. The option would be to put a pedestrian bridge across there and that would cost in the range of \$750,000. Mr. Strayer stated that we could apply for TEP funds from MORPC, but it is an 80/20 grant and they are currently working on the fiscal year 2014-2015.

Dr. Bender asked if Mr. Peoples would bring up the issue to the Gender Road Safety study. Mr. Peoples stated that this portion of Gender is not a part of that study and that the possibility of making Gender 5 lanes will make the shoulder situation worse. Right now, the shoulders are 8 foot wide and they will go down to 2 foot wide, if the road is widened.

Further discussion ensued.

Mrs. Turner suggested asking the schools for solutions to this problem, perhaps to provide a bus for students north of 33. Mr. Strayer stated he could bring it up at his next meeting.

Mrs. Mershon asked if we still share a speed trailer with Madison Township. Mr. Peoples said that we do. We have it every third week.

Mrs. Mershon asked about looking into portable ones that can be mounted on poles. Sgt. Kern said there are ones available from \$1000 to \$5000. Mrs. Mershon would like to look into getting a pole mounted one.

Sgt. Kern said he will look further into the pricing.

Fairfield County Sheriff's Report: None at this time

Community Affairs Report: None at this time.

Old/New Business:

Mr. Strayer stated that all 28 plots in the Community garden have been taken this year. A permanent location will need to be found for the garden for next year.

Mr. Strayer spoke with the State this week and their site eligibility form is out. He has been working with the Central Ohio CIC to fill out that form which is the application for the revolving loan fund. The next step is to re-engage the developer that was interested in doing the project.

Mr. Peoples stated that lights have been installed under the covered bridge to shine down on the water after dark. It is very picturesque.

Adjournment

Dr. Bender moved to adjourn, seconded by Mrs. Turner.

VOTES	AYES	Dr. Bender, Ms. Mershon, Ms. Turner
	NAYS	
	Motion carried	

Meeting adjourned at 5:40pm.